



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
NWRS

# United States Department of the Interior

## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

911 NE. 11th Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97232-4181

MAR 11 2004

Jim Watts, Chair  
Federal Planning Advisory Committee  
Hanford Reach National Monument  
3250 Port of Benton Boulevard  
Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Mr. Watts:

I would like to thank you and the Committee for the letter dated January 15, 2004, which provides advice on the draft Monument management goals and objectives. I appreciate the considerable amount of work performed by five subcommittees and the Committee in developing the advice. Enclosed is a description from the planning team which details how the Committee advice was incorporated into the current set of draft goals and objectives.

We look forward to continuing to work with you in developing the Monument's Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement. If you have any questions about the draft goals and objectives, please contact Greg Hughes, Project Leader and Designated Federal Official, at (509) 371-1801.

Sincerely,

Regional Chief, National Wildlife Refuge System

Enclosure

cc:

Keith Klein, Hanford Site Manager, Department of Energy

## Planning Team Use of Federal Advisory Committee Advice on Monument Management Goals and Objectives

### *Overall Concepts of Advice Incorporation:*

- Strategies and extraneous text were removed and retained for use in step-down planning and narrative descriptions as appropriate.
- Timeframes were set to reflect fiscal realities.
- Acreage targets were retained in the objectives to reflect Service budget request and reporting requirements.
- Editing for conciseness was performed.

### *Specifics:*

#### Goal 1, Objectives 1B1 through 1D5

The planning team reworked what were formerly three objectives with many actions to create five objectives with one main concept per objective. We included the concept of sharing research in Objectives 9B6, 9C6, and 9D6.

#### Goal 1, Objectives 1B6, 1D6, and 1D6

The planning team retained the first sentence of the FAC advice as an objective, and retains the remainder of the text for use in planning strategies and narratives regarding Integrated Pest Management.

#### Goal 1, Objectives 1B7, 1C7, and 1D7

The planning team retains acreages in the objectives, as they are necessary for Service budget requests and reporting requirements.

#### Goal 1, Objectives 1B8, 1C8, and 1D8

Advice incorporated, and the planning team added acreages to the objectives, as they are necessary for Service budget requests and reporting requirements.

#### Goal 1, Objectives 1B8, 1C8, and 1D8

The planning team retains fiscally realistic timeframes for establishing a locally derived native seed collection, nursery and storage program.

#### Goal 1, Objective 1B10

The objective to restore the summit of Rattlesnake Mountain is now located under Goal 1, as it relates to restoration.

#### Goal 2, Objectives 2B1, 2C1, and 2C1

Advice incorporated.

#### Goal 2, Objectives 2B2, 2C2, 2D2

The planning team integrated the FAC advice, using the word “thorough” instead of “complete”, as “complete” may be unattainable. We kept the measurable component of the objectives by retaining timeframes. Inventories will be completed sooner for Alternatives C and D, in accordance with anticipated greater public use. The monitoring advice is captured in Objectives 2B5, 2C5, and 2D5.

We retained, as planning strategies, the advice to “Identify focal (key) species affected by use” and “Monitor target native and non-native species identified through a comprehensive review across the Monument.”

#### Goal 2, Objectives 2B3, 2C3, and 2D3

The planning team feels that it is the Service’s responsibility to prioritize threats and address the most serious threats first, regardless of location.

#### Goal 2, Objective 2B4, 2C4, and 2D4

The planning team incorporated the FAC advice and matched timeframes for completing monitoring plans to coincide with inventory completion.

#### Goal 2, Objectives 2B5, 2C5, and 2D5

The planning team agrees with the FAC advice to also look at “habitats”, as opposed to just looking at “species” in inventory, monitoring, and protection planning. Because the level of inventory is greater in Alternative B than in Alternatives C and D, the timeframe for B is longer.

#### Goal 2, Objectives 2B6, 2C6, and 2D6

We added the word “implement” to make this objective more action-oriented. We removed geographic language as we feel that it is the Service’s responsibility to prioritize threats and address the most serious threats first, regardless of location.

#### Goal 3, Objectives 3B1, 3C1, and 3D1

Advice will be incorporated as a strategy.

#### Goal 3, new FAC objective

The impacts of Monument use to neighboring landowners will be addressed through the development of this Environmental Impact Statement and subsequent analysis in step-down planning.

#### Goal 3, Objectives 3B2, 3C2, and 3D2

As advised, we included the acquisition concept in Alternative B, but removed it from Alternative D. We acknowledge that the acquisition concept may be dropped in future revisions as per current Service policy direction. We incorporated the FAC timeframe advice.

Goal 4, Objectives 4B3, 4C3, 4D3

The planning team feels that it is the Service's responsibility to prioritize threats and address the most serious threats first, regardless of location.

Goal 4, Objectives 4B4, 4C4, 4D4

Advice to strike Locke Island is incorporated.

Goal 4, Objectives 4B5, 4C5, 4D5

Advice to add new objective is incorporated, with strategies removed for future use in step-down planning. We changed the timeframe for implementation to following completion of the USGS White Bluffs study.

Goal 4

FAC advice to interpret geology and paleontology is captured in Objectives 6B1, 6C1, and 6D1.

Goal 5

Advice to add the concept of balanced interpretation of history is incorporated into the goal statement.

Goal 5, Objectives 5B3, 5D3, 5D3

We reduced the acreages that would be surveyed annually to reflect fiscal realities.

Goal 5, Objectives 5B4, 5C4, and 5D4

We incorporated the advice to "implement programs." The advice regarding interpretation is captured in Objectives 6B1, 6C1, and 6D1. The heritage tourism component is captured in Objective 6D11.

Goal 5

Objectives addressing the cultural resources component of the Interpretation and Education Plan are captured in Objectives 6B1, 6C1, and 6D1.

Goal 5, Objectives 5B6, 5C6, and 5D6

Strategy advice is retained for future step-down planning efforts.

Goal 5

Objectives regarding the Monument watch program are expanded to include all natural and cultural resources and moved to Objectives 7B17, 7C18, and 7D18.

Goal 5, Objectives 5B7, 5C7, and 5D7

FAC advice to add new objectives is incorporated.

Goal 6, Objectives 6B1, 6C1, and 6D1

Advice incorporated.

Goal 6, Objectives 6B2, 6C2, and 6D2

Planning team increased the number of interpretive sites under each Alternative to reflect an emphasis on interpretation and education for Monument visitors.

Goal 6, Objectives 6B1, 6C1, and 6D1

Planning team retains the advice to review and update educational materials annually as a strategy.

Goal 6, Objectives 6B5, 6C5, and 6D5

Advice incorporated.

Goal 6, Objectives 6B6, 6C6, and 6D6

Advice incorporated.

Goal 6, Objectives 6B7, 6C7, and 6D7

Advice incorporated.

Goal 6, Objectives 6C8, and 6D8

We incorporated the advice to add a new objective regarding volunteer program development, including it only in Alternatives C and D to reflect the different emphasis from Alternative B.

Goal 6, Objectives 6C9, and 6D9

We included the education training program in only Alternatives C and D to reflect the different emphasis from Alternative B.

Goal 6, Objectives 6D10

We incorporated the advice to add a new objective regarding a study for a second interpretive center, including it only in Alternative D to reflect the different emphasis from the other Alternatives.

Goal 7, Objectives 7B1, 7C1, and 7D1

Advice incorporated with timeframes adjusted to reflect the different emphasis between the Alternative.

Goal 7, Objectives 7B3, 7C3, and 7D3

Advice to include monitoring strategy incorporated.

Goal 7, Objectives 7B4, 7C4, and 7D4

Advice incorporated.

Goal 7, Objectives 7B6 through 7D11

The planning team feels that this series of five objectives addresses an acceptable range of boat access and camping opportunities for analysis, while incorporating the intent of the related FAC advice.

Goal 7, Objective 7D13

Advice incorporated.

Goal 7, Objectives 7B14, 7C14, and 7D14

Advice incorporated, with strategies retained for step-down planning efforts.

Goal 7, Objectives 7C17, 7D18

Wildlife photography site development is included in Alternatives C and D only to reflect the different emphasis from Alternative B.

Goal 7, the old Rattlesnake Mountain objective for Alternative B is moved under Goal 1 as it relates to restoration. The objectives formerly under Alternatives C and D related to access are captured in Objectives 7B1, 7C1, and 7D1.

Goal 8, Objectives 8B4, 8C4, and 8D4

Advice incorporated.

Goal 8

The old objective to participate in planning efforts for off-site projects is captured in Objectives 3B4, 3C4, and 3D4.

Goal 9

Goal is deleted as advised, with the old objective now included in the Actions Common to All Alternatives Section.

Goal 10

Goal deleted, and both old objectives are moved to the Actions Common to All Alternatives Section. Several objectives are included throughout the goals that address the concept of enhancing relationships and partnerships with community organizations and neighbors, e.g., Objectives 3B3, 3C3, 3D3; 6C8, 6D8; 7B17, 7C18, 7D18.

Goal 11 (now is Goal 9)

Objective 9B2, 9C2, and 9D2

Advice incorporated.

Goal 9, Objective 9B3, 9C3, and 9D3

Advice incorporated, with a variation in Alternative B to preclude the necessity of seeking authority to form a Federal Advisory Committee, as would be required in Alternatives C and D.

Goal 9, Objective 9B6, 9C6, and 9D6

Advice incorporated by writing a new objective.

Goal 12 (now is Goal 10)

No changes were advised.

Goal 13

Goal is deleted as advised.